

CLERGY

Rev. Fr. Francis Olaseni, MSP – Parish Priest & Hospital Chaplain
 Rev. Fr. Eugene Terngohol Lugh, MSP – Assistant Priest & Hospital Chaplain
 Rev. Robert Beresford – Deacon

St. Agatha's Catholic Church
 1 Wyndham Road
 Kingston upon Thames
 Surrey, KT2 5JR
 Tel: 020 8546 4633
www.stagathaschurch.org.uk
kingston@rcaos.org.uk

The parish office should be your first port of call for any enquiries, including appointments, and arrangements for all sacraments (e.g. baptisms, weddings, funerals). Please email Karin Rattray, the Parish Secretary, at kingston@rcaos.org.uk or call on 020 8546 4633. The office is open from 10am to 3pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (closed Wednesdays). Could you please limit telephone calls outside these hours to emergencies only.

**FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES
 SUNDAY 20TH MARCH 2022
 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (C)**

Saturday 19th	St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Solemnity
9.30am	Evelyn Mary Jarvis RIP
6.30pm	Maria McCarthy RIP John Davis RIP
Sunday 20th	3rd Sunday of Lent
9am	Intentions for Crocker Family
10.30am	Keith & Alan Fraser RIP
6.30pm	Wellbeing of John Allen
Monday 21st	
9.30am	Anna Veronica RIP
Tuesday 22nd	
9.30am	Delia Galligan RIP
Wednesday 23rd	
9.30am	Joan Heelan RIP
Thursday 24th	
9.30am	Chris McMahan RIP
Friday 25th	Annunciation of the Lord, Solemnity
9.30am	Gerard Fineghan RIP
Saturday 26th	
9.30am	Evelyn Mary Jarvis RIP
6.30pm	Keith Fraser RIP
Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 09:00 AM	
Mass Times: Saturday: 09:30, 18:30 Sunday: 09:00, 10:30, 18:30	
Baptisms: By previous arrangement – Sunday at 12pm.	
Marriages: Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule.	



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER PROGRAMME

Please pick up a copy of our Lent and Holy Week Programme available in the church porch. It is also available on the website.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday mornings after Mass, and at 5.45pm on Sundays, during Lent (from Friday 4th March to Sunday 10th April 2022). This devotion provides an opportunity for us to walk the road to Calvary with Our Blessed Lord.

EXPOSITION AND ADORATION DURING LENT

The church will be open on Wednesday evenings during Lent from 7.30pm – 8.30pm for Exposition and Adoration. (16th, 23rd March & 6th April). Everyone is welcome.

**EASTER SPRING CLEAN
 SAVE THE DATE**

This year our dedicated Easter Spring Cleaning morning will be on Saturday 2nd April 2022, from 10am. There are a variety of tasks that need to be taken care of and we hope that both male and female parishioners will be willing to give up a few hours of their time to help us. A sign-up sheet is available in the church porch for volunteers to sign up or please email the parish office. (Even if you can only spare an hour or two, Fathers would really appreciate!) refreshments and all cleaning products will be provided.



COFFEE MORNING IN AID OF UKRAINE

On Friday 11th March 2022, we held a coffee morning in Aid of Ukraine. A huge Thank You to everyone who helped, baked and donated; we raised a total of £650!



CAFOD LENTEN COLLECTION

Last Sunday the retiring collection was for CAFOD. The total amount collected was £1619.58. You can still donate online at: <https://cafod.org.uk/Give>. Thank you for your continued support to CAFOD.



POPE TO CONSECRATE RUSSIA AND UKRAINE TO IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY



Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has announced that he will consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of our Blessed Lady on Friday, 25th March, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord ('Lady Day'). This will occur during a 'Celebration of Penance' over which he will preside at 5pm (Rome time) in the Vatican Basilica of St Peter.

This act of consecration will be performed in communion with the local Churches throughout the world, and at 4pm (London time), Archbishop John Wilson will lead our Archdiocese in prayer, and preside at a service of consecration followed by a 'Rosary for Peace' in Southwark's Metropolitan Cathedral of St George.

This celebration will be livestreamed on the [RC Southwark YouTube channel](#) although it is hoped that many will wish to join Archbishop John in the cathedral.

For further details please visit:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/pope-to-consecrate-russia-and-ukraine-to-immaculate-heart-of-mary/>



+++ LATELY DEAD +++

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Zoran Popovic who died on Saturday 5th March 2022.

His requiem will take place here at St Agatha's on Tuesday 22nd March 2022 at 11am.

Our condolences to Natasha and their family.

'Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.'

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish: Trish Taylor, Ryan Morrison, Philip Cockle, Melba De Silva and Michael Hodgkinson.

Please let the Parish Office know, in writing, if either you or your relatives would like to be mentioned on our sick list.

ILL AND HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS

If you are ill and housebound, our Priests would be happy to visit you, to pray with you, and to bring you Holy Communion in your home, please let us know; home visits are by request. If you know of someone who is unable to attend Mass but who would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the Parish Priests.

LET US REMEMBER

Let us remember those who have died recently or those whose anniversaries occur at this time, and all their families, with love and affection during this time of grief. May the Lord grant eternal rest to all who have died.

ANNIVERSARIES

Valentine Percival Hafner, Patrick Cremin, Bernadette Teresa Clarke, Edith Conlon, Stantey Cook, Peggy McManus, Norman Owen, Bridget (Bridie) Crehan, Mary McGhee, Ann Rosemary Parker, Corina Gomes, Mary Jennings, John Fennell, Elisabeth Thyrsa Quinn, Ethel Myall, Joe Walsh, Joan Heelan, Oscar Verhoven, Walter Frederic Welch, Nora Cutbill, Joan Miles, Reiner Kasolowsky, Kathleen Hatcher, Frederic White, Thomas Walsh, Gary Bellamy, Desmond Duggan, William Irvin Reed, Joseph Cassidy, Theodore Schlatter, Christina Josephine Pilgrim, Sydney George Alexander, +++May They Rest In Peace +++

A church that doesn't provoke any crises, a gospel that doesn't unsettle, a word of God that doesn't get under anyone's skin, a word of God that doesn't touch the real sin of the society in which it is being proclaimed — what gospel is that? ~ Saint Óscar Romero

Third Sunday of Lent, Cycle C
Sunday, March 20, 2022

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:1-9

Jesus preaches a lesson on repentance.

Gospel Reflection

Now into the third week of the Season of Lent, our Sunday Gospel prepares us to hear Lent's call to conversion and repentance. Today's reading is found in the chapters of Luke's Gospel that describe Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. During this journey, Jesus teaches and heals. He must also respond to those who question and challenge his authority and actions. There is no parallel in Mark's or Matthew's Gospels for today's reading from Luke. While Mark and Matthew describe an incident in which Jesus curses the fig tree, today's reading makes the barren fig tree the subject of a parable.

Luke tells us that some among the crowds report to Jesus a massacre of Galileans by Pilate. The intention of the crowd seems to be to ask Jesus to explain why these people suffered. It was commonplace to render people's suffering as evidence of their sinfulness. Jesus challenges this interpretation. Those who were massacred were no more or less sinful than the ones who report the situation to Jesus. Jesus replies that even a fatal accident, a natural disaster, ought not to be interpreted as punishment for sin.

Jesus' words at first appear to have a fire-and-brimstone quality. Jesus says in essence, "Repent or perish as these people did; all are sinful before God and deserving of God's punishment." The tone changes, however, in the parable that follows. The parable of the barren fig tree contrasts the patience and hopefulness of the gardener with the practicality of the property owner. When told to cut down the fig tree because it is not producing fruit, the gardener counsels patience. If properly tended, the barren fig tree may yet bear fruit.

Throughout his journey to Jerusalem, Jesus has been teaching about the Kingdom of God. In this parable, we find an image of God's patience and hopefulness as he prepares his Kingdom. God calls us to repent, and it is within his power to punish us for our failure to turn from our sinfulness. And yet God is merciful. He delays punishment and tends to us so that we may yet bear the fruit he desires from us.

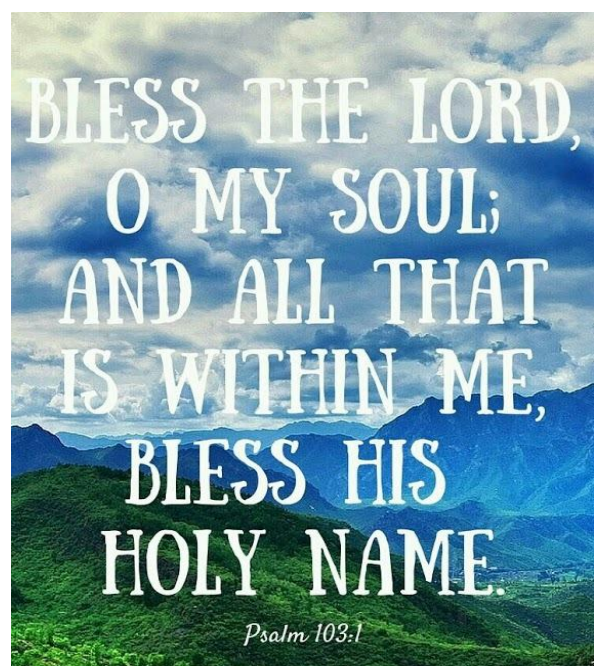
This, then, is our reason for hope: Not only does God refuse to abandon us, he chooses to attend to us even when we show no evidence of his efforts. Next week's Gospel will give an even clearer picture of the kind of mercy that God shows to us.

Family Reflection

We may be unfamiliar with fig trees, but we might know about the growth of spring flowers. Perhaps we have looked at a dry, brown flower bulb and wondered how this produces the colourful tulip or daffodil blossom that we expect to bloom in the spring. Perhaps we've even thought about the patience and hope that are required to plant flower bulbs in October. We don't have to be gardeners, however, to know about patience and hopefulness. As parents, we practice these virtues each day with our children. We may become frustrated and even angered by their wilfulness and lack of cooperation. Yet we continue to offer our attention and guidance in hope that one day our efforts will bear fruit. Today's parable suggests that God is like that with us, working with us in patience and in hope that one day we will show evidence that such work is not in vain. As parents, we know God's kindness when we find evidence for our hope for our children. Does God find such glimmers of hope as he works with us?

Gather your family and show a spring flower in bloom. Recall that in the fall this flower was a dry bulb (if a flower bulb is available, show this as well). Talk about the hopefulness and patience shown by those who plant flower bulbs in the fall in the hope that they will bloom in the spring. Read aloud today's Gospel, Luke 13:1-9. Compare the parable of the barren fig tree to your discussion about spring flowers. Consider the patience and hopefulness that God has with us as he works with us, calling us to return to him when we sin. Offer prayers of thanks and praise to God for his patience and hopefulness towards us. Conclude by praying together today's Psalm, Psalm 103.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press



CONFIRMATION 2021/22

The next candidate session will be on Monday 21st March 2022 at 7.15pm.



BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS AND BAPTISMS



For those who wish to have their child baptised, please register for our next available class, on **Saturday** 26th March 2022, which will be held in the church hall at 2pm, by completing and returning the baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office.

Parents need to attend a Baptism preparation class before a child's baptism.

Please note there is currently a waiting list for baptisms, so the earlier you contact the parish office the better!

MARRIAGES IN 2022

2022 may be the year that you plan to get married; many *Congratulations* if that is so.

Please remember that there is a lot of preparation that needs to take place and you are required to inform the church at least six months before.



If you plan to celebrate your wedding at another church all preparation for our parishioners must take place here at St. Agatha's. Please contact the Parish Office and we will happily guide you.

SAVING GRACE DIOCESAN ONLINE RETREAT

A retreat for Lent, introduced by Archbishop John Wilson, led by members of the Archdiocese of Southwark Spirituality Commission

The Archdiocese of Southwark is offering a retreat experience during Lent 2022, beginning on the first Sunday of Lent and ending in Easter week. Drawing on the Old Testament readings for the Sundays of Lent, Saving Grace will explore our shared story as the people of God. Along the way, we will discover how the twists and turns of our own personal stories are also holy ground, where God continues to draw us out of oppression and into freedom, and out of death into life.

The retreat is designed for individuals and is based on a weekly video accompanied by suggested exercises for prayer and reflection. These resources will be available in advance so that the videos can be viewed at any convenient time.

Individuals can join one of the online groups that will be offered on different days of the week and at different times of the day.

For more details and to register follow this link:
<https://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/savinggrace>

GODCALLS: ADVENTURE

GodCalls Adventure from the National Office for Vocation, is a free, 40-day self-guided course which aims to help you grow in holiness, and root each day in prayer.

The downloadable resources focus on cultivating different virtues, ranging from meekness to purity, gratitude to courage. There is also guidance on using the Bible, how to pray and reflect with the Rosary and the Stations of the Cross.

Further details at: www.godcalls.co.uk/godcalls-adventure

GodCalls Adventure is not just for Lent, try the 40 days at any point of the year



Stella Maris

On the one-year anniversary of the Ever Given ship getting stuck in the Suez Canal, Catholic charity Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) is hosting a webinar about modernisation in the shipping industry. It will look at the history of the container ship, the rise of the ultra-large container vessels, and explore what impact modernisation of the shipping industry has had on seafarers around the world. Please register now at www.stellamaris.org.uk/modernisation to join online on 23 March at 7.30pm to hear how shipping has changed in the last century, the impact this is having on seafarers today, and the important role Stella Maris has in supporting them.



St. Paul's Catholic Primary School
Hampton Ct Way
Thames Ditton
KT7 0LP
www.stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk



The Governing Body of St. Paul's Catholic Primary School, Thames Ditton, is looking to appoint a dynamic, forward-thinking headteacher to start in September 2022. If you would like further information, please email clerk@stpauls-thamesditton.surrey.sch.uk or alternatively please go to: <https://www.eteach.com/job/headteacher-1216606> for further details and to apply. The closing date for applications is March 24th 2022.